

# Natural Resources Conservation Service

## Application Ranking Summary

### Forestry

<b>Program:</b>	<b>Ranking Date:</b>	<b>Application Number:</b>
<b>Ranking Tool:</b> Forestry	<b>Applicant:</b>	
<b>Final Ranking Score:</b>	<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Planner:</b>	<b>Telephone:</b>	
<b>Farm Location:</b>		

### National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

### State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Forest Health - Answer all questions	
1. a. Will the practices in the Schedule of Operations address the goal of adjusting baseline stocking rates, as documented in the Forest Management Plan. Practices could include either Thinning scenarios under 666 Forest Stand Improvement, or 612, Tree/Shrub Establishment.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. b. Does the Schedule of Operations address ALL invasive species identified in the participant’s forest management plan where the plan identifies the potential for successful control and/or containment?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. c. Does the Schedule of Operations include practices to promote native species - either planting (612 Tree/shrub Establishment; 327 Conservation Cover; 390 Riparian Herbaceous Cover, 391 Riparian Forest Buffer) or planned natural regeneration that is supported in the Schedule of Operations by 490 Tree/Shrub Site Preparation and also has a documented seed source in the FMP and the CPA-52?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Wildlife - Answer all questions	
2. a. Will the practices in the Schedule of Operations DIRECTLY benefit threatened or endangered species according to results obtained from the CT-DEEP NDDDB (Natural Diversity Database)? A request for species information must have been submitted and recommendations returned. The recommendations for the species will be implemented using practices in the Schedule of Operations.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Will the practice(s) in the Schedule of Operations provide direct benefits to wildlife and habitats through implementation of practices such as mast release (666 Forest Stand Improvement), tree and shrub plantings (612 Tree/shrub Establishment), encouragement of early successional habitats (647 Early Successional Habitat Development and Management) or a combination of practices which also include brush piles or other created cover/structures (649 Structures for Wildlife) ?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Will the practices in the Schedule of Operations enhance or provide wildlife corridors by linking existing habitat patches across owned or adjacent forestland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Erosion - Answer all questions	
3. a. Will the practices in the Schedule of Operations restore sensitive areas by relocating poorly sited roads using 655 Forest Trails and Landings or 560 Access Road AND 654 Road/trail/landing Closure and Treatment ?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Does the Schedule of Operations include practices to stabilize ALL existing roads, trails, and landings on the treatment unit where a resource concern has been identified?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Streams and/or Wetlands - Answer all questions	
4. a. Will the practice(s) in the Schedule of Operations provide restoration of wetland habitats including wet meadows, marsh or shrub wetlands, forested wetlands, peat lands, vernal pools, floodplains and/or streams?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Will the practice(s) in the Schedule of Operations include replacement or removal of culverts, stone fords, or other in-stream structures with bridges, open-bottom culverts spanning bankfull width, or other	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

designs using 396, Aquatic Organism Passage to promote fisheries and wildlife passage?	
4. c. Does the Schedule of Operations contain practices that will reduce sediment to a stream on the 303 (d) list such as: 395 Stream Habitat Improvement and Management; 390 Riparian Herbaceous Cover; 391 Riparian Forest Buffer or erosion control scenarios in 560 Access Road or 655 Forest Trails and Landings?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. Will the practices in the Schedule of Operations result in the installation of Riparian Forest Buffer(s) which meet or exceed CT NRCS standards (minimum 35' width)? This could be the creation of new buffers, or extension of existing buffers using practices such as 390 Riparian Herbaceous Cover, 391 Riparian Forest Buffer or 612 Tree/shrub Establishment.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

#### Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Location	
1. a. Is this application located in a Public Water Supply Watershed or designated Aquifer Protection Area AND does it contain practices that address water quality?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. b. Does the Schedule of Operations include forest management practices that will address water quality on land that is located in a twelve (12) digit Hydrologic Unit code (HUC) watershed of a 303(d) listed stream?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. c. Does the contract application involves land that has been permanently protected through federal, state, local government programs or private land trusts?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Degree of Cooperation by Producer	
2. a. Have other Federal, State, local, or non governmental organization financial resources been committed to this project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. If the applicant has an existing EQIP contract, has it been, and is it now, on schedule and in full compliance?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Did the applicant successfully complete any past contract(s) in full compliance?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Is this the applicant's first EQIP application?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Does the applicant have any contracts that are currently in violation (with a CPA-153) or have any contracts that were terminated for failure to comply with contract terms and provisions within the last 3 years?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

#### Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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#### Ranking Score

Efficiency:  Local Issues:  State Issues:  National Issues:  <b>Final Ranking Score:</b>
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This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative:	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:
Signature Date:	Signature Date: